



OEAA Update

Produced by the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA), for those who administer statewide assessments in Michigan.

www.michigan.gov/oeaa Toll-free 877-560-8378

New Look... Same Great Service

With the new year, we decided it was time for a new name. Like its predecessors (the *MEAP Coordinator Update*, then the *MME/MEAP Coordinator Update*), the new *OEAA Update* will continue to keep you well informed about statewide assessments in Michigan... MEAP, Michigan Merit Exam (MME), MI-Access, and ELPA (English Language Proficiency Assessment). We are also working on improving the OEAA website (www.michigan.gov/oeaa), making it easier to find the information you need. As always, if you have questions about anything you read here or on our website, please contact us toll-free at 877-560-8378.

Help Us Review Future Test Items

If you would like to help us in early March to review piloted items for future MEAP and Secondary Credit Assessments, please register by Friday, February 22. To register or simply for more details:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=XW_2fgLPbZw_2bUAE_2fZjDjwM2w_3d_3d

If your application is accepted, you will receive a confirmation email from us on February 26. Your confirmation email will be proof that your application was accepted, so please bring a print-out of the confirmation email with you to your session. Walk-ins are discouraged because space may not be available. Confirmed registrants will be given priority over walk-ins.

Fall 2007 MME Results

Student results for the Fall 2007 MME are now available on the OEAA Secure website at www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure.

PLEASE NOTE... ACT has not yet provided MME Day 1 ACT scores for a small percentage of students. If you are missing valid MME score results for one or more students who took the **complete** Fall 2007 MME, please send an email to mme@michigan.gov with the following information:

- Last Name, First Name, Date of Birth, and UIC number, from the OEAA Secure Site, AND
- Last Name, First Name, Date of Birth, and ACT Identification Number as it appears on the student's ACT Score Report from Oct. 27, 2007.

This information must be emailed as soon as possible, but **no later than Wednesday, February 27.**

MME Deadlines & Reminders

The following apply to administration of the Spring 2008 Michigan Merit Exam (MME):

- **February 26** - First day of MME “No Test Preparation” Window. This includes ACT, WorkKeys, and Michigan components. See page 20 in the *Professional Assessment and Accountability Practices for Educators, updated August 2007*, on the MME web page at www.michigan.gov/mme (MME Spring 2008 Assessment Administration box).
- **February 27** - Deadline to submit missing ACT scores for students who took the complete Fall 2007 MME and did not receive valid MME scores. See full article above (“Fall 2007 MME Results”) for more information.
- **February 28 - March 5** - Window for ordering additional materials for MME Day 2 and Day 3 through the OEAA Secure Website.
 - Students who have an accommodation of **Extended Time** must use an Extended Time Test Booklet (Form 0812), not an Initial or Makeup Test Booklet, as these students will be testing with accommodations during the two-week window. Refer to the *MME Spring 2008 Administration Manual for Students Testing with Accommodations*.
- **February 29** - Deadline for submitting “Special Situations Form” for Students Testing with Accommodations. See accompanying article below (MME Accommodations - Special Situations).
- **March 7** - Last day to conduct **required** Pretest Sessions for students to pre-grid their answer documents. Instructions must be read verbatim from the MME Spring 2008 Administration Manual (pages 20-25), or MME Spring 2008 Administration Manual for Students Testing with Accommodations (pages 30-34). This Pretest Session must be completed for all three MME answer documents (Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3) prior to test day. Students who have not completed the Pretest Session prior to test day **will not be allowed to test**. They will need to be rescheduled for the Makeup Test Day and complete the Pretest Session prior to the Makeup Test Day.
- **March 7** - Last day to conduct **required** Training Session for Room Supervisors and Proctors. Please use the following “Training Session Outline and Topics for Discussion” to conduct your required training session with Room Supervisors and Proctors:

Standard Administration

- MME Day 1 - ACT's *Supervisor's Manual of Instructions for the ACT Plus Writing* (pages 57-58)
- MME Day 2 and Day 3 - *Spring 2008 MME Administration Manual for Day 2 and Day 3* (pages 13-14)

Students Testing with Accommodations

- MME Day 1 - ACT's *Supervisor's Manual of Instructions for the ACT Plus Writing - State Special Testing* (pages 95-97)
- MME Day 2 and Day 3 - *Spring 2008 MME Administration Manual for Students Testing with Accommodations* (pages 23-24)

New Dates for Picking-up MME Materials

Due to the elimination of the option to administer Day 3 tests in the afternoon of Day 2, Pick-up Dates for MME materials have changed:

- **March 12** - Scheduled pick-up of all Day 1 Initial test materials for return to ACT (see ACT Return Instructions included with your ACT shipment, or in the *Spring 2008 ACT Supervisor's Manual of Instructions*)
- **March 14** - Scheduled pick-up of all Day 2 and Day 3 Initial test materials for return to Pearson (see pages 55-60 in the *MME Spring 2008 Administration Manual*)
- **March 26** - Scheduled pick-up of all Day 1 Makeup and Accommodated test materials for return to ACT (see ACT Return Instructions included with your ACT shipment, or in the *Spring 2008 ACT Supervisor's Manual of Instructions*)
- **March 28** - Scheduled pick-up of all Day 2 and Day 3 Makeup and Accommodated test materials for return to Pearson (see pages 55-60 in the *MME Spring 2008 Administration Manual*)

OEAA will not guarantee scoring of any answer documents that are not returned on these dates in the **Scorable** material box(es). Documents returned without a barcode label will **not** be scored.

Spring 2008 MME Testing Schedule

2008 MME Testing Dates	Initial Dates	* Makeup Dates	Students with Accommodations
DAY 1 - ACT Plus Writing	March 11	March 25	March 11-25
DAY 2 - WorkKeys and Michigan Mathematics	March 12	March 26	March 12-26
DAY 3 - Michigan Science and Michigan Social Studies - <i>NOTE: It is no longer an option to administer the Day 3 tests in the afternoon of Day 2. Day 3 is administered ONLY on March 13 or March 27, 2008.</i>	March 13	March 27	March 13-27

* Makeup testing dates (March 25, 26 and 27) are for a student who was absent on March 11, 12 or 13 (illness, etc.). For example, if a student took Day 1 on March 11, but was ill for Day 2 (March 12), the student may take Day 2 on March 26.

It is NOT true that seniors who previously took the MME must wait until March 25-27 to re-test. The table above applies to ALL students who will be taking the MME in Spring 2008.

MME Accommodations Testing Schedule

- Accommodated testing for the MME is a two-week window. Accommodated students may test any day within a window that begins on the initial test date and ends on the makeup test date for the specified day of testing.
- There are no makeup tests.
- Accommodated MME tests **MUST** be administered in sequence.

Please see pages 10 and 11 in the *Administration Manual for Students Testing with Accommodations Day 2 and Day 3* for more information.

MME Accommodations - Special Situations

February 29 is the deadline to submit the "Special Situations Form" for Students Testing with Accommodations that meet ANY of the following:

- Transfer Student (after February 15, 2008) with ACT-Approved or State-Allowed accommodations requested by the prior school
- New Student (after January 25, 2008) without ACT-Approved or State-Allowed accommodations requested by the prior school – eligible for State-Allowed accommodations on Day 1 (ACT scores are NOT college-reportable if the student tests with State-Allowed accommodations)
- Emergency Medical or Late Onset Condition (for example, broke his arm last week)
- Newly Identified Disability

The MME Day 1 ACT Plus Writing Request for State Testing Accommodations Special Situations Form is available on the MME web page at www.michigan.gov/mme.

Accommodated materials for MME Day 2 and Day 3 must be ordered through the OEAA Secure Website. Accommodations for Day 2 and Day 3 are a local decision based on the student's IEP, 504 Plan, or ELL instruction.

Indicators of School Performance

The OEAA is currently collecting the Indicators of School Performance. The collection site is no longer MI-Plan. The new website is www.advanc-ed.org/mde.

All public schools in Michigan are scheduled to complete **ONE** of the following reports:

- *Education YES!* School Performance Indicators
- Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA)
- Standards Assessment Report (SAR) for North Central Association - Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) Schools
- Self Assessment (SA) for NCA CASI Schools

The deadline for submitting reports is March 17.

All four scenarios will fulfill the *Education YES!* reporting requirements and, in the case of NCA CASI schools, reduce the need for two reports to be filed. All reports will be made available to MDE for inclusion in the calculations for the *Education YES!* accreditation report card.

Schools and districts should have received emails informing them of the new web site for the collection. The emails contained access codes unique to districts and schools. There are training aids for users of the new web site under the "Training and Support" tab.

Users may contact their ISD or RESA for assistance in navigating the website and completing their assigned report. For technical issues such as access codes, contact the MDE liaison at 1-866-773-1128.

MEAP ELA: Response to Paired Reading Selections

Last fall, the ELA assessments were spiraled within classrooms. This means that multiple test forms were used within the same classroom. Since Michigan embeds field test items within operational tests, and since several forms were being used within a classroom, some

directions (about the use of details/examples and making connections) that accompanied the “Response to the Paired Reading” prompt in previous years had to be omitted from the student test booklets. A decision was made to add to the *Assessment Administrator Manual* a verbal reminder to the students. In the process of assembling this Manual, the statement about using details/examples and making connections was inadvertently omitted from the operational test directions.

These changes resulted in lower reading scores at all grade levels across the state. Since the “Response to the Paired Reading” constructed response accounts for only 16% of the total points on the reading test, it was determined that the remaining items yielded an accurate score, so the constructed response was not factored into the student’s score.

Although an exact timeline has not yet been determined, the OEAA expects to release the student responses to each school on a CD this spring.

MEAP ELA: Operational Items vs. Field-Tested Items

The “Comments Regarding MEAP Assessment Administration” feedback forms that were included at the end of the *MEAP Assessment Administrator Manual* have been reviewed by the OEAA staff. Some educators think that since there are different forms of the assessment, children must be receiving scores based on different expectations. Some educators question how children asked to read different reading selections can possibly be evaluated equally. *Aren’t you comparing apples to oranges?*

Tests consist of operational items and a few field-tested items. Different forms have the same operational items but different field-tested items. Student scores are based on the same operational items, not the field-tested items. Field-tested items are never factored into a student’s score. We never compare apples to oranges.

Welcome New OEAA Staffers

Brian Ciloski is a new OEAA analyst, working on the administration and reporting of assessment data for English Language Learners (ELL). He will respond to inquiries about testing data and will help assure the integrity of data reported. Brian came to us from the Michigan Department of State.

Wendy Gould is OEAA’s new English Language Arts (ELA) assessment consultant, filling a vacancy created by the retirement of Jane Faulds. Wendy was a K-4 literacy specialist for 34 years. She also worked with Jane for 18 months as a part-time consultant prior to her full-time appointment at the OEAA.

How to contact us

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